

Calais Roads Advisory Committee Minutes
Meeting at Calais Town Clerk's Office
February 27, 2012

Present: Mo Cerutti, Cathy Kashanski, Doug Lilley, Greg Pelchuck and guest - former road commissioner Don Singleton.

1) The first half hour was meeting with Don Singleton asking him for his opinion and thoughts from when he was road commissioner. Answers to group questions or thoughts he had follow.

- * Don always used all the sand and gravel money he was budgeted – it all went onto the roads
- * re-surfacing the roads is one of the most important things to do
- * would stockpile gravel for mud season
- * Don had a big map at the shop and marked on it where he re-surfaced in a given year – used different color markers for different years and a legend in the corner with years and colors. Don before him didn't do this – he (Don S) started it
- * ditches are very important – a few might get overdone but they are important
- * he put stakes out before winter on Doug's lawn and at culverts and other places so they could be seen when plowing in winter – important for good relations
- * we have some really good equipment for the town now
- * Don kept track of the work done on the equipment – had files in a drawer with this information
- * Don also used to keep track of fuel use
- * in answer to the idea about leaving equipment in farther corners of town so you save gas – Don said that you have be careful because you don't want a rock through the window but sometimes they would leave equipment, especially the grader, near where they would be working the next day – in a safe place
- * Don said that he would never touch a man's lawn without talking to him first, people take their yards and lawns seriously, it is just common sense to talk to them
- * Maple Corner isn't paved farther because the people in Maple Corner didn't want that
- * Max Gray Road is busier than it used to be, Sadie Foss Road too
- * it cost extra money to have Doug G. change equipment and cut bigger things along the roadside. There is a set amount to have a regular mower but extra to use a bigger rig.

2) Minutes of the February 13 meeting

Greg moved that we accept the minutes of the last meeting with his last name corrected. Doug seconded and all were in favor. Greg's name will be corrected and minutes made final.

3) Discussion on charge #3 - Mo has put a document with his thoughts on ditching, Cathy put out a list of best management practices from her point of view, Greg brought a list that is a mix of questions and ideas. Mo has sent his out, Cathy brought hers and will send out with draft minutes, and Cathy will type Greg's list to send out with the draft minutes. Answers to our questions such as 'are there job descriptions for the Road Commissioner and road crew members?' will help form our recommendations.

Because it seemed to be a common point of agreement over the last few meetings, Cathy moved that one of the committee's recommendations be that "the Road Commissioner keep efficient records on 1) the material used on the roads and where each year; 2) the basic maintenance done on the equipment each year and 3) the amount of fuel use. Greg seconded. Discussion followed that we didn't want this to be burdensome but some system like the one Don Singleton had with a map or a ledger as Greg as described would be useful. After discussion the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

4) Plan to move forward.

Cathy is sending out the draft minutes with Cathy and Greg's thoughts that haven't yet been sent electronically (everyone should have Mo's write-up focused on ditching). We are going to find the answers to some of the questions that Greg outlined and we all have.

5) Doug is going to check out what it would cost to hire a chipper for the times we would need that for roadside maintenance. We had a discussion about the request on the Town Meeting agenda to buy a chipper for the town.

6)Greg moved that we invite Steve Jerome to our next meeting; Cathy seconded; and all were in favor.

7) The next meeting is on **March 12, 6:00 to 7:30 pm** at the Town Clerks office.

Minutes written by Cathy Kashanski.

Approved at the March 12, 2012 meeting.